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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of: Kenji NISHI et al.

Group Art Unit: 2851

Serial No.: 10/718,728

Examiner: Hung Henry V. Nguyen

Filed: November 24, 2003

Confirmation No.: 1835

For: AN EXPOSURE APPARTUS, EXPOSURE METHOD USING THE SAME, AND METHOD OF MANUFACTURE OF CIRCUIT DEVICE

Attorney Docket Number: 991185B
Customer Number: 38834

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

August 23, 2004

Sir:

This paper is submitted in response to the Official Action dated July 22, 2004.

In the Action, restriction is required between Group I, Claims 23 - 31 and 42 - 44 and Group II, Claims 32 - 41.

Applicants hereby elect the subject matter of Group I, Claims 23 – 31 and 42 - 44 for prosecution in this application. This election is made without traverse, and it is understood that Applicants' rights to the filing of a divisional application directed to the non-elected subject matter under 35 U.S.C. §120 and 35 U.S.C. §121 are retained.

Response to Restriction Requirement Serial No. 10/718,728 Attorney Docket No. 991185B

If this paper is not timely filed, Applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. The fees for such an extension or any other fees that may be due with respect to this paper may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-2866.

Respectfully submitted,

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